

**Senate File 441 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 441  
BY COMMITTEE ON STATE  
GOVERNMENT

(SUCCESSOR TO SSB 1129)

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to the issuance of birth certificates and  
2 providing for a repeal.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 144.13A, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2017,  
2 are amended to read as follows:

3 1. The state registrar shall charge the parent a fee of  
4 twenty dollars for the registration of a certificate of birth  
5 ~~as follows:~~

6 ~~a. Beginning July 1, 2003, and ending June 30, 2005, a fee~~  
7 ~~of fifteen dollars.~~

8 ~~b. Beginning July 1, 2005, a fee of twenty dollars.~~

9 2. The state registrar shall charge the parent a separate  
10 fee established under [section 144.46](#) for a certified copy of  
11 the certificate. The certified copy shall include all of the  
12 information included in the original certificate of birth and  
13 shall be letter-sized. The certified copy shall be mailed to  
14 the parent by the state registrar. The mailing of a certified  
15 copy of the certificate to a biological parent shall not be  
16 precluded by the execution of a release of custody under  
17 chapter 600A, and, upon request, a biological parent shall be  
18 provided with a certified copy of the certificate unless the  
19 parental rights of the biological parent are terminated.

20 Sec. 2. Section 144.13A, Code 2017, is amended by adding the  
21 following new subsection:

22 NEW SUBSECTION. 2A. a. If, during the period between  
23 May 1993 and October 2009, a parent was issued a smaller than  
24 letter-sized certified copy of the certificate of birth under  
25 this section, which did not include all of the information  
26 included in the original certificate of birth, upon request  
27 of a parent, the department shall mail to the parent a single  
28 letter-sized certified copy replacement that includes all  
29 of the information provided in the original certificate of  
30 birth. A parent shall not be required to exchange the smaller  
31 certified copy for the larger certified copy replacement, but  
32 may retain the smaller certified copy.

33 b. Notwithstanding the amount of the fee charged under  
34 subsection 2, the state registrar shall not charge a fee  
35 for the issuance of a single letter-sized certified copy of

1 the certificate of birth requested by a parent under this  
2 subsection.

3 *c.* This subsection shall not apply if a new certificate of  
4 birth was substituted for the original certificate of birth  
5 pursuant to section 144.24.

6 *d.* The department shall post the application form and  
7 instructions for requesting a letter-sized certified copy  
8 replacement as specified in this subsection on the department's  
9 internet site. This paragraph is repealed June 30, 2022.

10

EXPLANATION

11

The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
12 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

12

13 This bill relates to the certified copy of a certificate  
14 of birth mailed to a parent by the state registrar following  
15 registration of the certificate of birth.

16 The bill updates outdated language relating to the fee  
17 charged a parent for registration of a certificate of birth by  
18 eliminating the reference to the fee charged during the period  
19 ending June 30, 2005, and retaining the current fee which is  
20 \$20.

21 The bill provides that the certified copy of a certificate of  
22 birth sent to a parent shall include all information included  
23 in the original certificate of birth and be letter-sized.  
24 Additionally, if a parent was issued a certified copy of the  
25 certificate of birth that is smaller than letter-sized and does  
26 not include all of the information provided in the original  
27 certificate of birth during the period between May 1993 and  
28 October 2009, upon request of the parent, the state registrar  
29 shall mail to the parent one letter-sized certified copy that  
30 includes all of the information provided in the original  
31 certificate of birth. Notwithstanding the amount of the fee  
32 regularly charged for the certificate of birth issued to a  
33 parent, the bill directs that the state registrar shall not  
34 charge the parent a fee for the certified copy requested by and  
35 mailed to the parent under the bill.

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1 The bill directs the department of public health to post  
2 the application form and the instructions for requesting the  
3 replacement certified copy on the department's internet site.  
4 This provision is repealed June 30, 2022.